GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4513
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2003
THRUST AREA IDENTIFIED FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some thrust areas have been identified for rural development for the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target set for the development of such areas during the plan period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the Major Thrust Areas identified for Rural Development for the Tenth Five Year Plan are given below: -

Ministry/ Department	Sector/Sub-Sector	Priority Agenda for Action
Department of Land Resources	Wastelands Development	Land Reforms
		Formulate policy on leasing of land
		Utilization of un-utilized/under utilized land•
		Identification all such lands under the control of panchayats/government•
		Formulation of policy for allotment of hitherto un-utilized/under-utilized land to landless, small & marginal farmers, SCs & STs/weaker sections, educated youth, retired defence personnel, etc. for cultivation/production activities.
		Providing technological and input support to all allottees of such lands with emphasis on use of resistant/tolerant plant species/crops/varieties for improving water logged/marshy lands, saline/alkaline lands.
	Watershed Development	Development of Rain-fed/Degraded land•
		Preparation of perspective plan for development of agriculture on watershed basis with support from GOI and States.
		Implementation of perspective plan with active participation of people, PRIs and NGOs including

the contribution from the beneficiaries towards the development/ treatment of their land.

To converge/bring in convergence of watershed development programmes/ schemes being implemented by different central ministries/departments – DAC, DLR, MoE&F, Planning Commission.

List the agencies at the district level for monitoring of watersheds and get regular feedback from them.

Department of Rural Development | Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) | Bengal, Assam and Jharkhand, where incidence of poverty is higher and self help movement is not vibrant.

Monitoring of financial and physical targets of SGSY, particularly, number of SHGs taking up micro enterprises.

To focus on guaranteed wage employment of 100 days to the poorest of the poor in 131 identified backward districts in the lean season.

Monitoring of financial and physical targets of SGRY, particularly, Number of mandays generated, works taken up and works completed, foodgrains lifted and foodgrains utilized/distributed to ensure that shelf of projects is maintained at District level.

Bring about a Legislation/Constitutional amendment for making it mandatory for State Governments to devolve funds, functions, and functionaries, in selected sectors.

Ministry/ Department	Sector/Sub-Sector	List of Critical Reforms
Ministry of Rural Development	Delivery of Programmes	Reform of bureaucracy including a minimum fixed tenure for development functionaries at the district level.
Department of Land Resources	Land acquisition	Land Acquisition Act.Enactment of amendments to the Land Acquisition Act 1894.
	R&R	Resettlement and Rehabilitation Act.
		Enactment of Resettlement and Rehabilitation Bill for project affected families.

Ministry/ Department	Sector/Sub-Sector	Reform Based Incentives
Department of Drinking Water Supply	Drinking Water	Reforms based allocation to States linked to promotion of participatory drinking water programme including the issues relating to maintenance and promotion of sanitation in villages through campaign mode.
Department of Rural Development	Panchayati Raj	Empowerment of Panchayats to be linked to Central Assistance to the States.

(c) No specific targets have been fixed.